



## United States Environmental Protection Agency Organization Assessment of Performance

1. Organization: Region 6 2. Fiscal Year: 2017

**3. Key Events/Issues/Challenges and Management Actions:** R6 embraces cooperative federalism through collaboration and innovation with our State, Tribal and local partners for the protection of human health and the environment. Region 6 led EPA's Hurricane Harvey response for the 7.2 million people impacted. EPA activities included: assisting with fuel waivers and no action assurance to prevent fuel shortages; assisting TCEQ to restore 2,238 drinking water systems and 1,743 wastewater systems; recovering over 1,038 orphaned containers and providing safe disposal; assessing risks and safe debris removal, community liaison; inspecting and testing of 43 Superfund NPL sites; providing rapid environmental analysis through the employment of mobile analysis systems (ASPECT, TAGA, and PHILIS); and providing environmental oversight for the careful destruction of materials at the Arkema plant. Earlier in Corpus Christi, R6 restored drinking water to about 300,000 people after a chemical spill threatened the city's system and developed 2 new analytical methods to test for rare contaminants. Provided land reuse opportunities after cleanup including creating: a trout lake from a mine discharge area, a marina and town center from a SF site, a \$1M health clinic from a removal action site, and an assisted living facility from a \$1M asbestos cleanup. Completed destruction of 20M lbs. of unstable propellants at Camp Minden. Developed tools to help stem induced seismic events in OK and addressed underground injection problems threatening Bird Creek and Pawhuska School District. Facilitated activities to restart the New Mexico Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, the Nation's only low-level radioactive waste disposal complex. Reached agreements with TX, LA, and AR on Regional Haze clean air plans to protect visibility impacts for parks and wilderness areas. Worked collaboratively with LDEQ and Denka to speed up the reduction of chloroprene emissions in LaPlace. Partnered with Texas to allow mobile sources to generate emission reduction credits. Collaborated on construction of water treatment facility providing services to 6,500 residents of NM. Served as Lead Region for OEI and implemented effective IT/IM strategies to consolidate and migrate Lotus Notes applications. Partnered with HQ to facilitate resolution of a backlogged Title VI complaint in Beaumont, TX.

**4. Performance Reporting 4a. Programmatic Performance Results: OAR:** Completed 44 SIP revisions, exceeding our ACS commitment of 30. Reduced backlog by 33%. **OW:** Restored 11 waterbodies. Reissued the NPDES permit for the Western Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf which covers approximately 3,500 oil and gas extraction facilities. R6 hosted a resiliency planning workshop to assist water utilities. Approved 6 impaired waters lists across AR, LA, & NM. Approved water quality standards revisions across 3 states and four tribes. Completed a \$18.1M coastal restoration project resulting in 144 acres of marsh creation. **OLEM:** Brownfields provided \$30 M to States and Tribes to leverage over \$500M in community development and 4,630 acres for reuse. Constructed final remedies at 14 RCRA sites, exceeding ACS commitment of 10. Issued 15 permits/approvals for PCBs storage, incinerator and land disposal facilities and two cleanup approvals. Conducted 40 UST inspections in Indian Country; results show greater than 85% compliance rate. Oversaw completion of 700 UST state clean ups, exceeding the target of 450. Completed 22 removal actions, 60 site assessments, 90 brownfield assessments/5 cleanups, and reached settlements for \$188 M dollars. **OCSP:** Filed two Complaint and Consent Agreements and Final Orders, and 14 Notice of Refusal of Admissions, preventing 457,701 lbs. of pesticide products from entering U.S. commerce. Issued 2 high profile Stop Sale orders for distributing over 400,000 bottles of unregistered insect repellent/sunscreen products. **OECA:** Conducted 890+ inspections and concluded 280+ enforcement actions resulting in \$10.9M in penalties, \$1.2M in stipulated penalties, \$3.1M in SEPs, resulting in over 5.5M lbs of pollutants reduced, and 1.5M gal of untreated discharge eliminated. Settled 4 judicial actions with States as co-plaintiffs resulting in 3.2M lbs in air pollutants reduced, 1.3M gallons of untreated discharge eliminated, and 287M lbs of hazardous waste reduced, treated, or eliminated. **OCFO:** Implemented Agency-wide cutover PeoplePlus version 9.2. Closed 71% of expiring grants. Managed 757 active grants totaling \$2.1B. Completed 29 SF site cost recovery packages totaling over \$19.4M. **4b. Accomplishments that support the FY 2017 Cross-Agency Strategies and Action Plans: Sustainability:** Retained 73 Food Recovery Challenge participants and recruited 23 new participants, 2 of which together have over 450 grocery stores in our region. **Communities:** In partnerships with ADEQ and ADH, conducted passive air monitoring in and around the Georgia-Pacific Paper facility to evaluate the sources and offsite impacts of hydrogen sulfide in Crossett, AR. Conducted outreach events attended by 964 school district personnel. Processed \$5.5 million in DERA grants for seven independents and school districts to destroy and replace diesel engines located in ozone non-attainment areas. **Partnerships:** Land restoration partnerships have been established with all states and tribes in R6; Sixty General Assistance Program grants awarded to Federally recognized tribes for capacity building activities. Three Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) meetings held, 75+ attendees. The RTOC meetings bring together tribal leaders, tribal environmental directors and EPA program management to discuss and plan remedies for environmental impacts to Indian country. **HPO:** Utilizing LEAN management, R6 streamlined community involvement that allowed response to 48,000 comments for the San Jacinto ROD. The Air Enforcement Mail Lean project reduced in-filing volume and coding resources by 70%. **5. Other Efficiencies, Cost-Savings, and Administrative Accomplishments.** Recognized by FEB in 3 of 10 award categories. Achieved 4 of 5 socio-economic goals with 10 outreach events to 500+ small business representatives. Reduced leased space by 26,000 square feet with an annual cost savings over \$435,000. Implemented VERA/VSIP program, with an estimated cost savings over \$1.75M. Convened Employee Engagement Council Lease Listening sessions to solicit input from all employees regarding the Region's new space. Created a strong labor/management partnership that seeks to resolve issues before they turn into grievances. Streamlined travel processing and internal reporting.